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*Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment*

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October 13, 2010

SCE&G  
220 Operation Way MC C221  
Cayce SC 29033-3701

Re: Certification in Accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, as amended.

SCE&G  
Continued Operation of the Saluda Hydroelectric Project  
Lake Murray, Lower Saluda River  
Lexington, Newberry, Richland and Saluda Counties  
FERC 516-459 (2009)

Dear Sir or Madam:

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (Department) staff have reviewed plans for this project and determined there is a reasonable assurance that the proposed project will be conducted in a manner consistent with the Certification requirements of Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended. In accordance with the provisions of Section 401, we certify that this project, subject to the indicated conditions, is consistent with applicable provisions of Section 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended. We also hereby certify that there are no applicable effluent limitations under Sections 301(b) and 302, and that there are no applicable standards under Sections 306 and 307.

This certification is subject to the following conditions:

1. Minimum flow releases to the LSR, with adaptive management provisions, must be in accordance with CRSA Appendix A-11 (Project Flow Release Program).
2. SCE&G must develop in consultation with SCDHEC, an Operation and Compliance monitoring Plan (OCMP) as conditioned in any FERC License issued for the Project. The plan must address methods to monitor and comply with required minimum flows established in the CRSA Appendix A-11 (Project Flow Release Program).
3. SCE&G must meet the D.O. standard in the LSR under all operating levels and conditions by implementing the turbine upgrade schedule in CRSA Appendix A Section 4.1. If the proposed unit upgrades do not support the SCDHEC LSR site specific DO standard, SCE&G must meet with SCDHEC and CRSA signatories within one year after the final unit upgrade, and completion of performance testing, to develop a plan to assure future support the standard.
4. During periods of normal inflow, the project must be operated in accordance with the proposed Normal Reservoir Operating Guidelines (CRSA Appendix A-14) except for provisions in Condition 5.
5. Lake Murray drawdowns to address lake water quality and other factors must be conducted,

with adaptive management provisions, in accordance with the Reservoir Drawdown Program (CRSA Appendix A-12).

6. SCE&G must implement the Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species Management Program (CRSA Appendix A-9) and the Sturgeon Protection and Adaptive Management Program (CRSA Appendix A-6) and any modifications to these Programs contained in the FERC license under ESA consultation requirements.

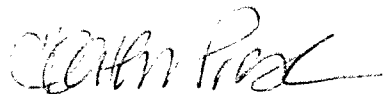
7. During periods of low inflow, the project must be operated in accordance with the proposed Maintenance, Emergency, and Low Inflow Protocol (CRSA Appendix A-13).

8. To support and enhance aquatic communities in the project area, SCE&G must implement the Trout Evaluation and Monitoring Program (CRSA Appendix A-7), Freshwater Mussel Enhancement Program (CRSA Appendix A-4), LSR Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring and Enhancement Program (CRSA Appendix A-3), Lower Saluda River Fish Community Monitoring Program (CRSA Appendix A-8) and any modifications to the Programs recommended by the FERC.

9. SCE&G must continue to participate as provisioned by the terms of the Santee River Basin Accord for Diadromous Fish Protection, Restoration, and Enhancement (CRSA Appendix A-5).

The Department reserves the right to impose additional conditions on the Certification to respond to unforeseen, specific problems that might arise and to take any enforcement action to ensure compliance with State water quality standards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather Preston", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Heather Preston, Director  
Division of Water Quality  
Bureau of Water

cc: US Army Corps of Engineers  
Charleston District Office  
Columbia EQC Office District Office